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PostScript



The release last week by the National Archives of World War II aerial reconnaissance photos of Auschwitz was not without backdrops.

The pictures came from the Central Intelligence Agency, which tried unsuccessfully to peddle them to Look and Life magazines. They turned down the photos because they were not in color.

Look passed the word to Paris Match, its new part-owner in France, which inquired after the pictures about the same time the German magazine Bunte (Color) made an inquiry through its New York office.

Meanwhile, CIA Director Stansfield Turner called on President Carter to show him in the pictures, aware that Carter was to meet two days later with Elie Wiesel, chairman of the president's Holocaust Commission. By the time Carter saw Wiesel and gave him the pictures, at least two news correspondents were poring over them at the Archives.